

JEROME BOUNCES A SLEUTH.

MORE TO GO, HE SAYS—SEEMS TO HAVE HEARD THINGS.

Short Sheriff for County Detective Woolley. Who Admitted Conferring With Another Man About "Chasing Evidence"—Some Jerome Vice Bills Held Up—Tenderloin Is Mightily Stirred.

In the new agitation about the condition of the city in regard to gambling and other kinds of vice there were several interesting developments yesterday. In the first place, District Attorney Jerome summarily discharged County Detective Robert L. Woolley. In explanation Mr. Jerome had this to say:

"I dismissed Woolley for the good of the service and for reasons amply sufficient to me. There are others to go also."

There was considerable speculation in the Criminal Courts Building and the saloons round about it as to who the others will be. Somehow there was little surprise that Woolley had been allowed to go.

Woolley was active during the last vice crusade, collecting evidence for the Committee of Fifteen. In the campaign he was one of the most active. He was one of the first of the vice-crusher sleuths to be rewarded with a job. His relations with Mr. Jerome were perhaps more confidential than were those of any of the other county detectives, except Chief Hammond. Woolley had access to the District Attorney's own office and to a choice and jealously guarded cabinet which contains some valuable information.

"If you could get that cabinet," said Mr. Jerome to a reporter last week, "you'd find material enough to run a paper for a week."

Certain arrangements, now pending between members of the Tenderloin "white light" brigade on one side and some men who wear county detectives' badges on the other, have recently come to the notice of the District Attorney. There are a number of county detective badges outstanding; not only real county detectives are now equipped. The new badges are of nickel and blue enamel. The old badges were made of brass.

Samuel Yeaky, of whom it was said from the Special Sessions bench on Friday that he was not worthy of belief, had one of the brass badges. Yeaky has been obtaining a number of persons are now wearing for Acting Captain Churchill of the Fifth street station. He was ambitious to become a county detective. Woolley was in conference with Yeaky yesterday to question him about a matter of changing some ways.

Mr. Jerome then stopped questioning Woolley, who had not reported the affair to the District Attorney. He was now wearing a badge which he had obtained from the Criminal Courts Building. It was whispered yesterday that Mr. Jerome heard more about Woolley while in the Tenderloin Friday night.

MAY QUESTION A VANDERBILT.

It also appears that there is a probability that a Vanderbilt may be asked what he knows about Richard Kane's gambling house, against which no evidence has been obtained.

Mr. Jerome was asked if under section 542 of the Penal Code, which says that a person shall be excused from giving testimony of any violation of the chapter on gaming, he could not summon Reginald Vanderbilt to the office to question him about what he saw in Kane's place, if, as has been alleged, he lost a large sum of money there.

The District Attorney said that the Constitutionality of this section of the Penal Code had never been tested. Then he remarked that this is the first time since Kane's place was closed that he has been asked to question a person about what he saw in Kane's place, if, as has been alleged, he lost a large sum of money there.

It came out yesterday that when District Attorney Jerome called on Friday that the city would not pay for getting evidence against gambling dens without a lot of trouble he was speaking from experience and not from conjecture. A controller (Groat) admitted yesterday that bills which Mr. Jerome had sent in for expenses incurred in securing evidence had been returned for further explanation.

"It is true," said Mr. Groat, "that this department has refused to audit some of the bills sent in by the District Attorney, but he has been fully informed of the reasons why those bills were not passed. The District Attorney is mistaken if he thinks he can intimidate this department through the newspapers. Mr. Jerome has been here to see me about this matter, and as I told him then, while I do not contend that money should be paid for the detection of crime, I will not pass bills such as he has sent me."

Mr. Jerome submitted in his accounts four bills, making a total of \$100 to \$150. These are bills for money paid to him by the city for the purpose of getting evidence against gambling dens without a lot of trouble he was speaking from experience and not from conjecture. A controller (Groat) admitted yesterday that bills which Mr. Jerome had sent in for expenses incurred in securing evidence had been returned for further explanation.

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Confidential informants are a very hard term and may mean anything. I do not think that I am in a position to say under what a heading or that I will willingly admit any bill incurred by Mr. Jerome if he will follow the proper form of showing that such bills have been lawfully incurred.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS HAVE BEEN USED.

When he visited the Tenderloin police station on Friday night District Attorney Jerome came at an interesting discovery. Jerome found that the book in which a record of the money lost in the game is kept had been placed up to date including March 21 and March 22 days placed in it. The book is kept in the station and is not to be taken out of it.

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R. C. VANDERBILT PAYS TAXES

ALTHOUGH HE DIDN'T COME OF AGE UNTIL AFTER LEVY.

Assess Me on a Quarter of a Million and Call It Square, Is His Suggestion After Making It Clear That He Was Not Liable Until After the Next Levy.

A few minutes before the doors of the Tax Department were closed on Thursday, a young man, clean-shaven, tall and youthful-looking, walked into the office and asked to see one of the Commissioners. He was taken into Commissioner Gillespie's room. To him the young man said:

"I have been assessed by your board for taxes upon my personal property, but my lawyer tells me that I cannot legally be compelled to pay the tax this year."

"How much was the assessment?" asked Mr. Gillespie. That is always the first question put to the people who flock to the Tax Commissioner's office to swear off their taxes.

"A million dollars," replied the youth. "How much?" Commissioner Gillespie asked with surprise.

"I was assessed for a million dollars," the young man replied and then he added: "My name is Reginald Vanderbilt."

Young Mr. Vanderbilt went on to tell the Commissioner that he came of age only on Dec. 16 last, and that the property for which he had been taxed in October had not come into his possession until after that date. He explained to the Commissioner that the only personal property owned by him prior to the reaching of his majority amounted to not more than \$11,000. In order to impress upon the Commissioner the truth of his statement he ran rapidly over the names of the securities belonging to him before he became of age. The facility with which he remembered the names and class of the stocks and bonds owned by him made it apparent, to use Mr. Gillespie's words, that the young man kept a close eye on his holdings.

The contention made by Mr. Vanderbilt that as he was a minor at the time the levy was made he could not legally be assessed upon the personal property which he subsequently came into his possession. Commissioner Gillespie admitted that the point taken by Mr. Vanderbilt had good foundation in law and he immediately proceeded to administer the oath which is customarily taken by people who assert that they have no personal property legally liable to taxation.

When that formality was concluded Mr. Vanderbilt told the Commissioner that he had no wish to evade his duties as a citizen of New York.

"I want to pay something," he said. "I don't want to evade on a technicality the whole assessment. The estate which I inherited when I came of age I have held between three and four months. You assessed me at \$1,000,000. Supposing you let me pay on a quarter of that; let me pay on \$250,000, and then I would think it would be a fair deal for both sides."

Commissioner Gillespie agreed that such a transaction would be entirely equitable, whereupon Mr. Vanderbilt drew his check for \$5,750.

C. M. SCHWAB NICKEL CO.

Holding Concern Incorporated With \$24,000,000 Capital.

TRENTON, N. J., March 29.—The International Nickel Company was incorporated to-night with a capital stock of \$24,000,000, half of which is to be common stock and half preferred, the latter bearing 6 per cent.

Former Attorney-General John W. Griggs is the private counsel of the new company, and the company's New Jersey agent is the Corporation Trust Company of Jersey City. The incorporators named in the certificate, which was filed with the Secretary of State about 5 o'clock this evening, are H. P. Bell, Edward Wood and Kenneth K. McLaren. The company is authorized to deal in nickel and all other metals.

This is the development of the plans of Col. Robert M. Thompson, President of the Orford Copper Company, Charles M. Schwab, President of the United States Steel Corporation, and their friends, looking to the control of the mining of nickel ore. The new company will hold a controlling interest in the stocks of the Orford Copper Company of Bayonne, N. J., and the Canadian Copper Company, which are interested in the nickel deposits of the Orford Copper Company of London, England.

The nickel investments of Mr. Schwab, it is understood, have nothing to do with the United States Steel Corporation.

Col. Thompson said on Saturday last that the idea at that time was to make the capital of the holding company \$9,000,000.

J. R. KEENE'S ILLNESS SLIGHT.

Has an Attack of Rheumatism—Must Remain Quiet for Day or Two.

LEXINGTON, Ky., March 29.—Dr. David Barrow said to-night that James R. Keene is suffering from inflammation of the bowels and will not be able to go to his farm (Castleton) to-morrow at least. Mr. Keene arrived here on Friday, suffering from a light attack of dysentery, and took to his bed at once, calling in Dr. Barrow. He has been in bed since then, and is now in a fair way to recovery.

Mr. Keene's condition is such that he will not be able to go to his farm (Castleton) to-morrow at least. Mr. Keene arrived here on Friday, suffering from a light attack of dysentery, and took to his bed at once, calling in Dr. Barrow. He has been in bed since then, and is now in a fair way to recovery.

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DEVER'S REAL ESTATE

Deeds Recorded for \$378,500 Worth Supposed to Belong to the Big Chief.

Among the deeds recorded in the Register's office yesterday was a batch conveying a dozen parcels of investment property in various parts of Manhattan to John J. Byrne for considerations aggregating \$378,500. Byrne is the young man, said to be a relative of William S. Devery, who was understood to have represented the former Deputy Police Commissioner at the big auction sale of the realty holdings of the Josephine L. Peyton estate held in the Trinity almshouse last month.

At the sale Byrne made bids under coaching from Devery, after the latter had for a time taken part personally in the competition. The acknowledgments of purchase, however, were all signed by Byrne. After the sale Devery said that he had not bid for himself, but for "my friend Byrne."

When asked whether Byrne was not a relative of his the chief answered diplomatically, "Now, I ain't got nothin' to say touchin' on that, not a word."

Purchase money mortgages filed yesterday in connection with the deeds show that Byrne remains in debt to the Peyton estate to the extent of only \$116,000. The deeds cover the following parcels:

Third avenue, 2155, 247,000; Sixth avenue, 851, 242,000; Eighth avenue, 151, 175,500; Tenth avenue, 851 and 853, 145,250; Eleventh avenue, 670 and 672, 125,400; Thirteenth street, 236 and 238, 207,750; Greenwich street, 110, 115,400; Fifty-ninth street, 116, 235,000; and Evelyn place, 100, 100,000. The deeds cover the following parcels:

NEGR0 BURNED AT THE STAKE.

Was Accused of Assault by a Dying Lad Who Defended His Mother.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 29.—Richard Young, one of the negroes accused by young Dover Fountain in his dying statement of having attacked himself and his mother on Thursday night on the Ogeechee road, three miles from Savannah, was caught to-day by the residents of the Ogeechee district and burned at the stake.

A piece of railroad iron was driven into the ground in a swamp and the negro tied to it with trace chains. A brush heap was built up around him and the torch applied. The mob dispersed as soon as the fire started blazing. No one remained to see the negro die. Trustworthy information comes that the flames did the work, however, and the negro's charred body was seen by people who went to investigate.

Negroes attempted to rob the store of Mrs. Lila Fountain. The boy, 16 years old, grappled with the men when he found them in the room. One struck him with an axe, and later, when the mother ran to her son's assistance, struck the mother. The boy died the next day.

MADE THE CO-EDS SHOW ANKLES.

Nine Students of Missouri University Expelled.

COLUMBIA, Mo., March 29.—The faculty of the State University yesterday summarily expelled nine students for participating in a disgraceful affair on the night of the banquet to the freshmen class in Academic Hall. Certain students who had failed to receive an invitation were invited to the banquet and determined that those who were thus honored should not be permitted to attend. To this end they surrounded Academic Hall, scanning closely the faces of the escorts of the young women who entered the building, with the hope of detecting freshmen and preventing their entrance.

Several of the invited guests among the freshmen, alarmed at the gait which they would have to run, decided to circumvent the mob by making the entrance into the hall disguised as girls. One student thus garbed was recognized by a freshman and called out by name. A rush was made for him and his dress torn off amid the shouts and jeers of the rioters.

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TWO MORE HATFIELDS KILLED.

THOMPSON AND HIS SON EPHRAM SHOT IN THEIR HOME.

Two Officers Who Came to Arrest Ephram for Being a Fugitive From Justice From North Carolina Also Shot—Tragedy the Outcome of an 1860 Shooting.

MATEWAN, W. Va., March 29.—A tragedy occurred at the home of Thompson Hatfield, across Tug River, in Pike county, Ky., this morning, in which Hatfield and his son, Ephram, and two officers were killed in one room.

John Rutherford, a detective and revenue officer, and Harry Watts, proprietor of the Palace Hotel, at Williamson, the county seat of this county, went to the home of the Hatfields to place under arrest Ephram on a fugitive warrant, charging him with a felony committed in North Carolina. The officers went in which Hatfield and his son, Ephram, and two officers were killed in one room.

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